

## POL

The wisdom of this world is sometimes taken in scripture for *policy*, and consists in a certain dexterity of managing business for a man's secular advantage. *South's Sermons.*

3. [*Poliza*, Spanish.] A warrant for money in the publick funds.

TO POLISH. *v. a.* [*polio*, Lat. *polir*, Fr.]

1. To smooth; to brighten by attrition; to gloss.

He fetters to finish his work, and *polisheth* it perfectly. *Ecl.*

Pyemalion, with fatal art,  
Polish'd the form that flung his heart. *Granvil.*

2. To make elegant of manners.

Studious they appear  
Of arts that *polish* life, inventors rare. *Milton.*

Bid soft science *polish* Britain's heroes. *Irene.*

TO POLISH. *v. n.* To answer to the act of polishing; to receive a gloss.

It is reported by the ancients, that there was a kind of steel, which would *polish* almost as white and bright as silver. *Bacon.*

POLISH. *n. f.* [*poli*, *politure*, Fr. from the verb.]

1. Artificial gloss; brightness given by attrition.

Not to mention what a huge column of granite coss in the quarry, only consider the great difficulty of hewing it into any form, and of giving it the due turn, proportion and *polish*. *Addison's Remarks on Italy.*

Another prism of clearer glass and better *polish* seemed free from veins. *Newton's Opticks.*

2. Elegance of manners.

What are these wondrous civilizing arts,  
This Roman *polish*, and this smooth behaviour,  
That render man thus tractable and tame? *Addison's Cato.*

POLISHABLE. *adj.* [from *polish*.] Capable of being polished.

POLISHER. *n. f.* [from *polish*.] The person or instrument that gives a gloss.

I consider an human soul without education, like marble in the quarry, which shews none of its inherent beauties, till the skill of the *polisher* fetches out the colours. *Addison.*

POLITE. *adj.* [*politus*, Latin.]

1. Glossy; smooth.

Some of them are diaphanous, shining and *polite*; others not *polite*, but as if powder'd over with fine iron dust. *Woodw.*

If any sort of rays, falling on the *polite* surface of any pellucid medium, be reflected back, the fits of easy reflexion, which they have at the point of reflexion, shall still continue to return. *Newton's Opticks.*

The edges of the fund holes, being worn away, there are left all over the glass a numberless company of very little convex *polite* ridings like waves. *Newton's Opticks.*

2. Elegant of manners.

A nymph of quality admires our knight,  
He marries, bows at court, and grows *polite*. *Pope.*

POLITELY. *adv.* [from *polite*.] With elegance of manners; genteely.

POLITENESS. *n. f.* [*politesse*, Fr. from *polite*.] Elegance of manners; gentility; good breeding.

I have seen the dullest men aiming at wit, and others, with as little pretensions, affecting *politeness* in manners and discourse. *Swift.*

POLITICAL. *adj.* [*politikos*.]

1. Relating to politics; relating to the administration of publick affairs.

More true *political* wisdom may be learned from this single book of proverbs, than from a thousand Machiavel. *Rogers.*

2. Cunning; skilful.

POLITICALLY. *adv.* [from *political*.]

1. With relation to publick administration.

2. Artfully; politically.

The Turks *politically* mingled certain Janizaries, harque-buffers with their horsemen. *Knight's History of the Turks.*

POLITICASTER. *n. f.* A petty ignorant pretender to politics: There are quacks of all sorts; as bullies, pedants, hypocrites, empiricks, law-jobbers and *politicasters*. *L'Estrange.*

POLITICIAN. *n. f.* [*politicien*, Fr.]

1. One versed in the arts of government; one skilled in politics.

Get thee glass eyes,  
And, like a scurvy *politician*, seem  
To see things thou dost not. *Shakesp. King Lear.*

And 't be any way, it must be with valour; for policy I hate: I had as lief be a Brownist as a *politician*. *Shakespeare.*

Although I may seem less a *politician* to men, yet I need no secret distinctions nor evasions before God. *King Charles.*

While emp'rick *politicians* use deceit,  
You boldly shew that skill, which they pretend,  
And work by means as noble as your end. *Dryden.*

Coffee, which makes the *politician* wise,  
And see through all things with his half-shut eyes,  
Sent up in vapours to the baron's brain  
New stratagems, the radiant lock to gain. *Pope.*

2. A man of artifice; one of deep contrivance.

Your ill-meaning *politician* lords,  
Under pretence of bridal friends and guests,  
Appointed to await me thirty spies. *Milton.*

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If a man succeeds in any attempt, though undertook with never so much rashness, his success shall vouch him a *politician*, and good luck shall pass for deep contrivance; for give any one fortune, and he shall be thought a wise man. *South.*

POLITICK. *adj.* [*politikos*.]

1. Political; civil. In this sense *political* is almost always used, except in the phrase *body politic*.

Virtuously and wisely acknowledging, that he with his people made all but one *politick* body, whereof himself was the head; even so cared for them as he would for his own limbs. *Sidney, b. ii.*

No civil or *politick* constitutions have been more celebrated than his by the best authors. *Temple.*

2. Prudent; versed in affairs.

This land was famously enrich'd  
With *politick* grave counsel; then the king  
Had virtuous uncles. *Shakesp. Richard III.*

3. Artful; cunning. In this sense *political* is not used.

I have trod a measure; I have flatter'd a lady; I have been *politick* with my friend, smooth with mine enemy. *Shakesp.*

Authority followeth old men, and favour youth; but for the moral part, perhaps youth will have the preheminence, as age hath for the *politick*. *Bacon.*

No less alike the *politick* and wife,  
All fly slow things, with circumspective eyes;  
Men in their loose unguarded hours they take. *Pope.*

POLITICKLY. *adv.* [from *politick*.] Artfully; cunningly.

Thus have I *politickly* begun my reign,  
And 'tis my hope to end successfully. *Shakesp.*

This *politickly* done,  
To fend me packing with an host of men. *Shakesp.*

The dutches hath been most *politickly* employed in shapening those arms with which the subdued you.

POLITICKS. *n. f.* [*politique*, Fr. *politika*.] The science of government; the art or practice of administering publick affairs.

Be pleas'd your *politics* to spare,  
I'm old enough, and can myself take care. *Dryden.*

It would be an everlasting reproach to *politics*, should such men overturn an establishment formed by the wisest laws, and supported by the ablest heads. *Addison.*

Of crooked counsels and dark *politics*. *Pope.*

POLITURE. *n. f.* [*politure*, Fr.] The gloss given by the act of polishing.

POLITY. *n. f.* [*politieia*.] A form of government; civil constitution.

Because the subject, which this position concerneth, is a form of church government or church *polity*, it behooveth us to consider the nature of the church, as is requisite for men's more clear and plain understanding, in what respect laws of *polity* or government are necessary thereunto. *Hobbs.*

The *polity* of some of our neighbours hath not thought it beneath the publick care, to promote and reward the improvement of their own language. *Locke on Education.*

POLL. *n. f.* [*pollis*, *poll*, Dutch, the top.]

1. The head.

Look if the withered elder hath not his *poll* claw'd like a parrot. *Shakesp. Henry IV. p. ii.*

2. A catalogue or list of persons; a register of heads.

Have you a catalogue  
Of all the voices that we have procur'd,  
Set down by th' *poll*. *Shakesp. Cymbeline.*

The muster file, rotten and found, amounts not to fifteen thousand *poll*. *Shakespeare.*

3. A fish called generally a chub. A chevin.

TO POLL. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To lop the top of trees.

The oft cutting and *polling* of hedges conduces much to their lasting. *Bacon's Natural History.*

May thy woods oft *poll'd* yet ever wear  
A green, and, when the list, a golden hair. *Dante.*

2. In this sense is used *poll'd* sheep.

*Poll'd* sheep, that is sheep without horns, are reckoned the best breeders, because the ewes year the *poll'd* lamb with the least danger. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

3. To pull off hair from the head; to clip short; to shear.

Neither shall they shave, only *poll* their heads. *Exekiel.*

4. To mow; to crop.

He'll go and fowle the porter of Rome gates by th' ears: he will mow down all before him, and leave his passage *poll'd*. *Shakesp. Cymbeline.*

5. To plunder; to strip; to pill.

They will *poll* and spoil so outrageously, as the very enemy cannot do much worse. *Spenser on Ireland.*

Take and exact upon them the wild exactions, coignies, liveries and forechon, by which they *poll* and utterly undo the poor tenants. *Spenser on Ireland.*

He told the people, that subsidies were not to be granted nor levied for wars in Scotland; for that the law had provided another course by service of escuage, much less when war was made but a pretence to *poll* and pill the people. *Bacon.*

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Neither can justice yield her fruit with sweetnefs, amongst the briars and brambles of catching and *polling* clerks and ministers. *Bacon.*

4. To take a list or register of persons.

5. To enter one's name in a list or register.

Who ever brought to his rich daughter's bed,  
The man that *poll'd* but twelve pence for his head? *Dryd.*

6. To infer to a number as a voter.

In solemn conclave sit, devoid of thought,  
And *poll* for points of faith his trusty vote. *Tickell.*

POLLARD. *n. f.* [from *poll*.]

1. A tree lopped.

Nothing procureth the lasting of trees so much as often cutting; and we see all overgrown trees are *pollards* or dotards, and not trees at their full height. *Bacon.*

2. A clipped coin.

The same king called in certain counterfeit pieces coined by the French, called *pollards*, crocans and rolaries. *Camden.*

3. The chub fish.

POLLEN. *n. f.* A fine powder, commonly underfoot by the word farina; as also a sort of fine bran. *Bailey.*

POLLINGER. *n. f.* Brufwood. This seems to be the meaning of this obsolete word.

Lop for thy fewel old *pollenger* grown,  
That hinder the come or the gralle to be mown. *Tusser.*

POLLER. *n. f.* [from *poll*.]

1. Robber; pillager; plunderer.

The *poller* and exacter of fees justifies the resemblance of the courts of justice to the bush, whereto while the sheep flies for defence, he loses part of the fleece. *Bacon's Essays.*

2. He who votes or polls.

POLLEVE. *n. f.* [*poll* and *evil*.]

*Polleve* is a large swelling, inflammation or imposthume in the horse's poll or nape of the neck, just between the ears towards the mane. *Farrier's Dict.*

POLLOCK. *n. f.* A kind of fish.

The coast is plentifully store with shellfish, sea-hedgehogs, scallops; and flat, as round, pilcher, herring and *pollack*. *Carew's Survey of Cornwall.*

TO POLLUTE. *v. a.* [*polluo*, Lat. *polluer*, Fr.]

1. To make unclean in a religious sense; to defile.

Hot and peevish vows  
Are *polluted* offerings, more abhor'd  
Than spotted livers in the sacrifice. *Shakesp.*

2. To taint with guilt.

She woos the gentle air,  
To hide her guilty front with innocent snow,  
And on her naked flame,  
*Pollute* with sinful blame,  
The faindly veil of maiden white to throw. *Milton.*

3. To corrupt by mixtures of ill.

Envy you my praise, and would destroy  
With grief my pleasures, and *pollute* my joy? *Dryden.*

4. *Milton* uses this word in an uncommon construction.

*Polluted* from the end of his creation.

POLLUTEDNESS. *n. f.* [from *pollute*.] Defilement; the state of being polluted.

POLLUTER. *n. f.* [from *pollute*.] Defiler; corrupter.

Ev'n he, the king of men,  
Fell at his threshold, and the spoil of Troy  
The foul *polluters* of his bed enjoy. *Dryden's Zenis.*

POLLUTION. *n. f.* [*pollutio*, Fr. *pollutio*, Latin.]

1. The act of defiling.

The contrary to consecration is *pollution*, which happens in churches by homicide, and burying an excommunicated person in the church. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

2. The state of being defiled; defilement.

Their *triste pollution* brings  
Upon the temple. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. xii.*

POLLTRON. *n. f.* [*pollis truncato*, from the thumb cut off; it being once a practice of cowards to cut off their thumbs, that they might not be compelled to serve in war. *Saunders.* *Monage* derives it from the Italian *poltra*, a bed; as cowards feign themselves sick a bed: others derive it from *poltra* or *polvo*, a young unbroken horse.] A coward; a nidget; a scoundrel.

Patience is for *polltrons*. *Shakesp.*

They that are bruised with wood or fifts,  
And think one beating may for once  
Suffice, are cowards and *polltrons*. *Audubras, p. ii.*

For who but a *polltron* posses'd with fear,  
Such haughty insolence can tamely bear. *Dryden.*

POLY. *n. f.* [*polios*, Lat.] An herb.

POLY. [*polos*.] A prefix often found in the composition of words derived from the Greek, and intimating multitude: as, *polygon*, a figure of many angles; *polypus*, an animal with many feet.

POLYACOUSMICK. *adj.* [*polos* and *akousis*.] Any thing that multiplies or magnifies sounds. *Diät.*

POLYANTHOS. *n. f.* [*polos* and *anthos*.] A plant.

Great varieties of *polyanthos* are annually produced, and its flowers are so numerous on one stalk, and so beautifully striped, that they are not inferior to auriculas in beauty. *Miller.*

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The dairy, primrose, violet darkly blue,  
And *polyanthos* of unnumber'd dyes. *Temple.*

POLYEDRICAL. *adj.* [from *poliedros*; *polyedre*, Fr.] Having many sides.

POLYEDROUS. *adj.* [from *poliedros*.] Having many sides.

The protuberant particles may be spherical, elliptical, cylindrical, *polyedrical*, and some very irregular; and according to the nature of these, and the situation of the lucid body, the light must be variously effected. *Boyle.*

A tubercle of a pale brown spar, had the exterior surface covered with small *polyedrous* crystals, pellucid, with a cast of yellow. *Woodward.*

POLYGAMIST. *n. f.* [from *polygamy*.] One that holds the lawfulness of more wives than one at a time.

POLYGAMY. *n. f.* [*polygamie*, Fr. *πολυγαμία*.] Plurality of wives.

*Polygamy* is the having more wives than one at once. *Locke.*

They allow no *polygamy*: they have ordained, that none do intermarry or contract, until a month be past from their first interview. *Bacon.*

Christian religion, prohibiting *polygamy*, is more agreeable to the law of nature, that is, the law of God, than mahometism that allows it; for one man, his having many wives by law, signifies nothing, unless there were many women to one man in nature also. *Gravett.*

POLYGLOT. *adj.* [*πολύγλωττος*; *polyglotte*, Fr.] Having many languages.

The *polyglot* or linguist is a learned man. *Howell.*

POLYGON. *n. f.* [*polygone*, Fr. *πολύς* and *γωνία*.] A figure of many angles.

He began with a single line; he joined two lines in an angle, and he advanced to triangles and squares, *polygons* and circles. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

POLYGONAL. *adj.* [from *polygon*.] Having many angles.

POLYGRAM. *n. f.* [*πολύς* and *γραμμή*.] A figure consisting of a great number of lines. *Diät.*

POLYGRAPHY. *n. f.* [*πολύς* and *γραφία*; *polygraphie*, Fr.] The art of writing in several unusual manners or cyphers; as also deciphering the same. *Diät.*

POLYLOGY. *n. f.* [*πολύς* and *λογία*.] Talkativeness. *Diät.*

POLYMATHY. *n. f.* [*πολύς* and *μάθημα*.] The knowledge of many arts and sciences; also an acquaintance with many different subjects. *Diät.*

POLYPHONISM. *n. f.* [*πολύς* and *φωνή*.] Multiplicity of sound.

The passages relate to the diminishing the sound of his pistol, by the rarity of the air at that great ascent into the atmosphere, and the magnifying the sound by the *polyphonusms* or repercussions of the rocks and caverns. *Derham.*

POLYPETALOUS. *adj.* [*πολύς* and *πέταλον*.] Having many petals.

POLYPODY. *n. f.* [*polypodium*, Latin.] A plant.

*Polypody* is a capillary plant with oblong jagged leaves, having a middle rib, which joins them to the stalks running through each division. *Miller.*

*Polypody* is common on the banks of ditches where there are stumps of old trees, on walls, and by the sides of woods: *polypody* is attenuant and dissolvent. *Hill's Materia Medica.*

A kind of *polypody* groweth out of trees, though it windeth not. *Bacon's Natural History.*

POLYPOUS. *adj.* [from *polypos*.] Having the nature of a *polypos*; having many feet or roots.

If the vessels drive back the blood with too great a force upon the heart, it will produce *polypos* concretions in the ventricles of the heart, especially when its valves are apt to grow rigid. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

POLYPUS. *n. f.* [*πολύπους*; *polype*, Fr.]

1. *Polypus* signifies any thing in general with many roots or feet, as a swelling in the nostrils; but it is likewise applied to a tough concretion of grumous blood in the heart and arteries. *Quincy.*

The *polypus* of the nose is said to be an excrescence of flesh, spreading its branches amongst the laminae of the os ethmoides, and through the whole cavity of one or both nostrils. *Sharp's Surgery.*

The juices of all austere vegetables, which coagulate the spittle, being mixed with the blood in the veins, form *poly-pusses* in the heart. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

2. A sea animal with many feet.

The *polypus*, from forth his cave  
Torn with full force, reluctant beats the wave,  
His ragged claws are stuck with stones. *Pope.*

POLYSCOPE. *n. f.* [*πολύς* and *σκοπεω*.] A multiplying glass. *Diät.*

POLYSPAST. *n. f.* [*polyspaste*, Fr.] A machine consisting of many pulleys. *Diät.*

POLYSPERMIOUS. *adj.* [*πολύς* and *σπέρμα*.] Those plants are thus called, which have more than four seeds succeeding each flower, and this without any certain order or number. *Diät.*

POLYSYLLABICAL. *adj.* [from *polysyllabos*.] Having many syllables; pertaining to a polysyllable.

*Polysyllabical* echoes are such as repeat many syllables or words distinctly. *Diät.*